GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:994
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
SUPPLY OF SUB STANDARD COAL TO POWER PLANTS
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various Coal companies are supplying sub-standard quality of Coal to the power plants located in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard?

(c) if so,the details thereof,state-wise;

(d) steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the supply of quality coal to power plants;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (c): South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL),Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) and Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) are supplying coal,as per linkage,to the thermal power plants located in Madhya Pradesh, for such grades of coal as are produced by the respectivecoal companies. For quality assurance, joint sampling facility is extended to the thermalpower stations for determination of quality of coal actually supplied. Some complaints regarding quality of coal are received from time to time, which are looked into by therespective coal producing companies, to ensure that such complaints are avoided to the minimum.However, neither Coal India Limited (CIL) nor the Ministry of Coal has received any seriouscomplaint on the quality of coal being supplied to thermal power plants located in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) to (f): To ensure improvement in quality of coal being supplied to thermal power plants,CIL has taken the following measures:

i) Selective mining of bands of more than 1 meter thickness.

ii) Appropriate positioning of overburden and coal benches to avoid contamination.

iii) Scrapping / cleaning of coal benches before blasting.

iv) Installation of metal detectors/ magnetic separators over running conveyors before coal loading.

v) All the major projects having high capacity coal handling plants to dispatch sized and uniform quality of coal to suit the requirement of the consumers.

vi) Establishment of well equipped laboratories at all the projects for regular quality assessment.

vii) Arrangement for joint sampling and 3rd party sampling with consumers, based on which consumers are compensated.

viii) Arranging awareness programmes / imparting training to the personnel involved in production of coal regarding importance of coal quality and need to improve and maintain the same during mining operations.

ix) Shale picking, if any, at mine face, stocks sidings and from the wagons.